

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/699,065

Examiner

Baoquoc N. To

Applicant(s)

PARKER ET AL.

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/27/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached &
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 04/29/2007.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 04/29/2007
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other. _____

BQ

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/18/2007 has been entered.

Claims 1, 19 and 29 are amended in the amendment filed on 01/18/2007.

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application.

Drawings

2. The drawing filed on 10/31/2007 is informal. Please submit the formal drawing.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark J. Spolyar, Reg. 42,164 on 04/27/2007.

Please amend the application as follows:

29. (Currently) An apparatus, comprising:

a processor;

a memory;

instructions encoded in a computer-readable media for execution and when executed operable to:

(a) ~~means for~~, accepting from one of a plurality of users, and store, a first data set (i) representing a first version of the file and (ii) designating one or more recipients of the initial version; and

(b) ~~means for~~, for each one of a plurality of sequentially updated versions of the file:

(1) accepting, from one of the plurality of users, a second data set (i) including delta data indicating the difference between the updated version of the file and an immediately previous version of the file for constructing the updated version of the file from the immediately previous version of the file, and (ii) designating one or more recipients of the updated version; and

(2) transmitting a third data set representative of the updated version of the file to at least one of the recipients of the updated version designated by the second data set;

(3) wherein for each recipient designated by the second data set who accessed the immediately previous version of the file, the third data set includes the delta data indicating the difference between the updated version of the file and the previous version of the file.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-29 are allowed over the prior art made of records.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, the examiner agrees with the applicant argument "the proposed combination of Chandhok and Allen fails to disclose or suggest the claimed subject. As

the examiner admits, Chandhok teaches a system that does not provide delta data to recipients who have previously accessed a preceding version of a file. Rather, Chandhok discloses a system where the entire new version of a file is transmitted to recipients, regardless of whether they have accessed a preceding version of the file. The use of hash function and the like in Chanhok is directed to verifying corresponding between an existing version and a new version of a file, before the new version replaces the old version of file. See Chanhok at page 8, lines 18-33." In additional, the examiner also agrees with applicant argument "Allen fails to teach the use of delta data as disclosed and claimed-namely, "delta data indicating the different between the updated version of the file and an immediately previous versions of the file for constructing the updated version of the file from the immediate previous version of the file."

Claims 2-18 are depended on claim 1, therefore, claims 2-18 are allowed under the same reason as to claim 1.

Claim 19 is the computer-readable data storage medium comprising executable instructions operative, when executed, to cause one or more processors to perform a method for facilitating collaborative updating of a file as disclose in claim 1. Therefore, claim 19 is allowed under the same reason as to claim 1.

Claims 20-28 are depended on claim 19; therefore, claim 19 is allowed under the same reason as to claim 19.

Claim 29 is a system for facilitating collaborative updating of a file which recites in claim 1. Therefore, claim 19 is allowed under the same reason as to claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Patent and Publication:

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Barbara et al. | (US. Patent No. 5,475,753) | Date: 12/12/1995. |
| Ramaley et al. | (US. Patent No. 6,687,741 B1) | Date: 02/03/2004. |
| Scott et al. | (US. Patent No. 6,489,980 B1) | Date: 12/03/2002. |
| Lash | (US. Patent No. 6,912,591 B2) | Date: 06/26/2005. |
| Brooks | (US. Patent No. 7,209,953 B2) | Date: 04/24/2007. |

NPL:

Shirmohammandi et al. An architecture for collaboration in virtual environments, page 283, date: March 18-22,2000.

Shen et al. Flexible notification for collaborative systems. Pages: 77-86, date 20002.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is at 571-272-

Art Unit: 2162

4041, or unofficial fax number for the purpose of discussion (571) 273-4041 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached at 571-272-4107.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231.


The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follow:

(571) 273-8300 [Official Communication]

BQ To



April 29th, 2007



JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100